

The word 'typhoon' (Chinese *tai fung*, 'great wind') is employed to designate a species of violent storms which are experienced along the coasts of Tongking and of China, as well as on the south eastern coast of Japan. They differ from similar storms in other parts of the world, in their violence. There is a sudden change in the barometer, which sometimes falls two or three inches in an hour. At the centre of the storm, the barometer may drop to 28 or even to 27. The destructive character of the typhoon is due to the enormous difference of atmospheric pressure between neighbouring places, and the consequent rapidity of the fluctuation. As the sea level is highest at the centre, a high wave is frequently found to accompany the typhoon, carrying ruin and destruction to all stranding ships at considerable distance from the shore, who have witnessed the destructive energy of one of these convulsions of the elements, can never lose the impression of the tremendous power of the forces which are so suddenly called into action. It sometimes happens, that when all the barometrical indications point to the probability of a typhoon, that some sudden and unanticipated change takes place in the direction of the forces, and the danger passes as quickly as it came. The natural history of the typhoon among the Chinese is interesting, especially its destructive energy and frequent dissipation, is analogous to a social phenomenon found among the Chinese people.

'In a land filled with such a dense population as China, the details of the processes by which the population is kept in order, can never be unimportant nor uninteresting. A foreign resident of Yüta accustomed to the furious collisions of the heterogeneous people in the lands governed by the unspeakable Turk, proposed to one whose knowledge was extensive among the natives, a natural and judicious inquiry. How is it possible that the countless millions of China should be kept from killing each other?' If the Chinese were not, as often pointed out, an inherently peaceable people, no code of laws, and no machinery of government would suffice to produce the degree of order which is now witnessed. In order to understand one of the principal proceedings by which the normal peaceful order of Chinese society is first interrupted, I mention here a custom which forms part of the natural history of a Chinese quarrel in its inception, its development, its culmination and its close. Among a population of such unexampled density, where families often of great size are crowded together in narrow quarters, it is impossible that occasions for quarrels should not be all pervasive. "Wash and wipe together—love and quarrel together," says the homely old English adage. The Chinese, who have so many things in common, find it comparatively common to live at loggerheads. "How do you know how to love and there in your family?" "You inquire of your neighbour." "Between ten and twenty mouths," he replies. "And do you have everything in common?" "You ask. "Yes"—is the most common reply. Here then are fifteen or twenty human beings, probably representing three, if not four generations, who live from the income of the same business or farm, an income which is all put into a common stock, and that stock is met solely from this common property. Where is the society capable of withstanding the strain to which it must be subjected under conditions such as this? The grandparents are perhaps superannuated; and complain of the coarse food as tasteless, and require something better. Filial obedience, or often the outward shell of it, prevents even the whisper of an objection, but there are inward murmurs that the old people are growing weary of life, and they grow more impatient with their time and strength to the common fund; but the sisters-in-law, they are an element of the most capital importance, and very difficult it is to harmonise them. The elder sister-in-law enjoys tyrannising somewhat over the younger, and the younger ones are naturally jealous of her prerogatives of the elder. Each strives to make her husband feel that in this community of property, he is the one whose interests are neglected. This is a source of much trouble, and the wife has a fair share in the character of the troubles here described."

"The younger brother was shoved aside until he came to think his elder brother's natural rage, the colour of India ink. For when our neighbourhood holds a feast, what lowliness it shows! The young man is always the first to rise, and say, 'The fellow which you value, and are gathering all the while to crush of years will degenerate a formidable power.' And then he looks at the old man, and says, 'Why do stand up after the old man, and thus be shoved aside?'"

Commercial.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong and Shanghai Bank—161 per cent. premium, sellers.
 Union Assurance Society of Canton—\$874 per share, sellers.
 The Commercial Union Assurance Company—\$72 per share, sellers.
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THE INDIAN MAIL.

The India China S. N. Co's steamer *Wing-ling*, from Calcutta, left Singapore on the 2nd instant, and is expected here on the 8th.

STEAMERS EXPECTED.

The Ocean Steamship Co's steamer *Archives*, from London, left Singapore on the 3rd instant, and is expected here on the 9th.

The Union line steamer *Cambodia*, from Hamburg, left Singapore on the 2nd instant, and is expected to arrive here on the 9th.

The P. & O. S. N. Co's steamer *Khiva*, from Bombay, left Singapore on the 4th instant, at 7.30 a.m., and is expected here on the 10th.

The 'Shire' line steamer *Carmarthenshire*, from London, left Singapore on the 4th instant, and is due here on the 10th.

Shipping.

TRIUMPH, German steamer, 674, P. Moos, 5th July.—Newchwang 27th June, Beans.—Wieler & Co.

FUSION, Chinese steamer, 1,600, Crowl, 5th July.—Whampoa 5th July, General.—C. M. S. N. Co.

SUCHOW, British steamer, 900, Hughes, 5th July.—Swatow 4th July, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

HAILONG, British steamer, 781, J. S. Roach, 5th July.—Tamsui 30th June, Amoy 3rd, and Swatow 4th, General.—D. Lapraik & Co.

ACTIV, Danish steamer, 355, Revsbeck, 5th July.—Pakhoi and July, and Hoihow 4th, General.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.

DEPARTURE AT THE HARBOR OFFICE.

Swatow, British steamer, for Swatow.

Amoy, Chinese steamer, for Amoy.

Shanghai, British steamer, for Shanghai.

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Post Office.

MAIL WILL BE OPENED.

For Swatow.—Per *Nanshan*, to-morrow, the 6th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Shanghai.—Per *Mogul*, to-morrow, the 6th instant, at 1.30 P.M.

For Straits, Colombo, Bombay, and London.—Per *Lombardy*, on Saturday, the 7th instant, at 11.30 A.M.

For Swatow, Singapore, and Bangkok.—Per *Tai-chow*, on Saturday, the 7th instant, at 1.30 P.M.

For Saigon.—Per *Chow-chow-foo*, on Saturday, the 7th instant, at 4.30 P.M.

SHIPPING IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.

ABYSSINIA, British steamer, 2,346, Geo. A. Lee, 28th June.—San Francisco 21st May, Vancouver 29th, Yokohama 17th June, Nagasaki 21st, and Shanghai 25th, General.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

AFGHAN, British steamer, 1,439, G. Roy, 3rd July.—Sydney, via Manila 30th May, Sugar, Gibb, Livingston & Co.

ALWING, German steamer, 400, Samuelson, 4th July.—Pakhoi, 1st July, and Hoihow 3rd, General.—Wieler & Co.

ANIER HEAD, British steamer, 1,300, Pinkham, 26th June.—Batumi 10th May, and Singapore 19th June, Kerosene Oil.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

ARABIC, British steamer, 2,787, Smith, 28th June.—Liverpool 20th May, Coals.—O. & S. S. Co.

BELONA, German steamer, 2,032, Heaslopp, 4th July.—Kobe 29th June, General.—Siemssen & Co.

CHANGHAI, British steamer, 1,463, J. E. Williams, 3rd July.—Colonies 11th June, Coal and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

CHANG HOCK KIAN, British steamer, 956, F. Webb, 4th July.—Penang 26th June, and Singapore 28th, General.—Dun Hin Chan.

CHOW-CHOW-FOO, German steamer, 796, W. Wendt, 4th July.—Saigon 29th June, Rice.—Tung Kee.

DECIMA, German steamer, 965, P. Oestmann, 29th June.—Bangkok 22nd June, Rice.—Siemssen & Co.

DEVANAGARI, British steamer, 1,057, P. H. DEYANAGARI, 1st July.—Bangkok 26th June, Rice and Timber.—Yuen Fat Hong.

DRACHENFELS, German steamer, 1,459, Carl Tard, 30th June.—Saigon 26th June, Rice, and Paddy.—Melchers & Co.

FAME, British steamer, 1,17, A. Stopani.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.

GENERAL WERDER, German steamer, 1,820, W. von Schuckmann, 3rd July.—Nagasaki 20th June, Mails and General.—Melchers & Co.

KILDARE, British steamer, 2,277, Johnson, 3rd July.—Saigon, 19th June, Rice.—Butterfield & Swire.

KUTSANG, British steamer, 1,495, Slesar, 30th June.—Whampoa 30th June, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

LOMBARDY, British steamer, 1,880, C. F. Preston, 1st July.—Bombay 15th June, and Singapore 26th, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

MORAY, British steamer, 1,411, W. S. Duncan, 27th June.—Saigon 23rd June, Rice.—Adamson, Bell & Co.

NANSHAN, British steamer, 805, Geo. Blackburne, 2nd July.—Bangkok 24th June, and Kohabang 25th, Rice and General.—Hop King Kee.

PILOT FISH, British steamer, 161, A. Stopani.—Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co.

SEPTIMA, German steamer, 783, P. Hansen, 4th July.—Manila 30th June, General.—Ed. Schellhass & Co.

TAICHOW, British steamer, 862, J. Newton, 26th June.—Bangkok 20th June, Rice and General.—Yuen Fat Hong.

SAILING VESSELS.

AGNA, German schooner, 347, H. Meindricke, 14th June.—Menada 10th May, Wood.—Siemssen & Co.

CHITTOOR, British bark, 217, S. Gortley, 20th June.—Freemantle 18th May, Sandalwood.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

CUTHONA, British 3-m. schooner, 301, James Giffen, 19th June.—Shanghai 15th May, Sandalwood.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

ELECTRA, American ship, 939, F. L. Jones, 20th June.—Manila 8th June, General.—Russell & Co.

ELLA NICOLAS, German bark, 574, J. W. Meisner, 11th June.—Pescadore 7th June, Ballast.—Chiesle.

ERKOPING, Chinese bark, 457, Opium Examination bulk, Shoncutters Island.—Chinese Customs.

HEINRICH, German ship, 921, F. H. Bannau, 20th May.—Middleborough 17th Dec, Iron and Coals.—Arnold, Karberg & Co.

NORDEN, Norwegian schooner, 236, L. A. Jensen, 30th June.—Delagoa Bay 12th May, General.—Gillman & Co.

SACHEM, American ship, 1,311, J. L. Bartlett, 29th June.—Cardiff 17th March, Coal.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

SANTA FILIPINA, Spanish schooner, 449, J. de Mendiguren, 24th June.—Iloilo 31st Dec, General.—Kwong Cheong Tai.

SPINWAY, British ship, 325, J. Garrick, 23rd June.—Shanghai 26th May, Sandalwood.—Siemssen & Co.

TARAPACA, British bark, 804, H. Kennett, 11th June.—Sandakan 15th May, Timber.—Gibb, Livingston & Co.

TEXAN, German bark, 438, Roper, 1st April.—Singapore 29th January, Hardwood and Timber.—Chinese.

VELOCITY, British bark, 491, R. Martin, 3rd May.—Honolulu 21st March, General.—Pustau & Co.

YOUNG SIAM, Siamese bark, 789, G. Kock, 16th June.—Put back, General.—Chinese.

WHAMPOA.

AMOV, German steamer, 815, R. Kohler, 1st July.—Shanghai 28th June, General.—Siemssen & Co.

E. J. SPENCE, British bark, 516, J. H. Gill, 14th June.—Newchwang 27th May, Beans.—Chinese.

RIVER STEAMERS.

Fatsan, British steamer, 2,260, S. W. Goggin, Hongkong, Canton, & Macao Steamboat Co.

Hankow, British steamer, 2,335, Lloyd, Butterfield & Swire.

Ho-nam, British steamer, 1,377, G. B. Lafavour, Hongkong, Canton, & Macao Steamboat Co.

Kiu-kiang, British steamer, 617, W. E. Clarke, Hongkong, Canton, & Macao Steamboat Co.

STEAMERS EXPECTED IN HONGKONG.

STEAMERS.	FROM.	DATE DUE.	AGENTS.
Khivie	London	July 7th	P. & O. S. N. Co.
City of Sydney	San Francisco	July 8th	Pacific Mail S. S. Co.
Wingsang	Calcutta	July 8th	Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Archives	London	July 9th	Butterfield & Swire.
Cambodia	Hamburg	July 9th	Russell & Co.
Khiva	Bombay	July 10th	P. & O. S. N. Co.
Carmarthenshire	London	July 10th	Adamson, Bell & Co.

STEAMERS LOADING IN HONGKONG.

DESTINATION.
